

IN THE CLAIMS

*Please cancel claims 4 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.*

*Please amend claims 1-3, 6-9, 11 and 15, 16, 19-22, 24 and 25 as follows and add new claims 27-31 as follows:*

1. (Currently Amended) A machine for producing a tissue web, comprising:  
a forming region with at least one circulating, continuous dewatering ~~wire~~, belt;  
said forming region comprising a forming roll, wherein said at least one dewatering belt and another belt pass over the forming roll and separate from each other immediately following the forming roll;

~~wherein said at least one dewatering wire comprises~~ belt comprising at least two zones having different wire permeabilities formed by warp and weft threads[[,]]; and

each at least two zones ~~has~~ having at least one dimension of length and width less than 5 mm,

wherein the tissue web is subjected to suction before said another belt and said at least one dewatering belt separate from each other immediately following the forming roll.

2. (Currently Amended) The machine according to claim 1, wherein said at least one dewatering belt comprises a dewatering wire and is provided in an initial dewatering region.

3. (Currently Amended) The machine according to claim 1, ~~further comprising wherein the forming roll forms part of a former which includes a forming element and two wherein said another belt comprises another~~ circulating, continuous dewatering belts, at least one of which comprises said at least one dewatering wire with at least two different wire permeabilities belt;

wherein said two circulating belts being at least one dewatering belt and said another dewatering belt are arranged to converge to form a stock inlet nip, and ~~then being guided over said forming element, as wherein said at least one dewatering belt is an outer belt, which does not come into contact with said forming element and as an inner belt, wherein at least one of said outer belt and said inner belt comprise said at least one dewatering wire with at least two different wire permeabilities~~ roll; and

further comprising a suction device is arranged at a separation point ~~between said two circulating belts in which~~ ,

wherein the tissue web is transferred from said at least one dewatering wire with at least two different permeabilities to the other of said two circulating belts belt to said another dewatering belt following the separation point.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Original) The machine according to claim 3, wherein said former comprises a double wire former.

6. (Currently Amended) The machine according to claim 3, wherein said former comprises a crescent former, ~~wherein said outer belt is formed by said at least one dewatering wire with at least two different wire permeabilities and wherein said inner~~ another belt is ~~formed by~~ a felt belt.

7. (Currently Amended) The machine according to claim 1, wherein said at least one dewatering ~~wire~~ belt comprises a woven material formed of warp and weft threads.

8. (Currently Amended) The machine according to claim 7, wherein said at least two zones of different wire permeabilities ~~of said at least one dewatering wire~~ are formed by weaving threads of at least one of different diameter and different weaving pattern.

9. (Currently Amended) The machine according to claim 1, further comprising a conditioning device assigned to said at least one dewatering ~~wire~~ belt.

10. (Original) The machine according to claim 9, wherein said conditioning device comprises a wire cleaning device.

11. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a tissue web in a tissue machine, the process comprising:

forming the tissue web in a forming region of the tissue machine on at least one circulating, continuous dewatering wire belt comprising at least two zones having different wire permeabilities formed by warp and weft threads, wherein each at least two zones has at least one dimension of length and width of less than 5 mm, wherein said forming region comprises a forming roll, and wherein said at least one dewatering belt and another belt pass over the forming roll and separate from each other immediately following the forming roll; and

suctioning the tissue web before said another belt and said at least one dewatering belt separate from each other immediately following the forming roll.

12. (Original) The process according to claim 11, further comprising performing dewatering at a machine speed that is greater than approximately 1300 m/min.

13. (Original) The process according to claim 12, wherein the dewatering is performed at greater than approximately 1500 m/min.

14. (Original) The process according to claim 13, wherein the dewatering is performed at greater than approximately 1800 m/min.

15. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 11, further comprising using the at least one dewatering wire belt in an initial dewatering region.

16. (Previously Presented) The process according claim 11, ~~further comprising the use of wherein the forming roll forms part of a former, which includes a forming element and two circulating, continuous dewatering belts, at least one of which comprises said at least one dewatering wire with at least two different wire permeabilities; the two circulating belts being wherein said another belt and said at least one dewatering belt are arranged to converge to form a stock inlet nip, and then being guided over the forming element, as wherein said at least one dewatering belt is an outer belt, which does not come into contact with the forming element and as an inner belt, wherein at least one of the outer belt and the inner belt comprise the at least one dewatering wire with at least two different wire permeabilities belt;~~  
and

wherein the machine further comprises a suction device is arranged at a separation point ~~between the two circulating belts in which~~ and wherein the method further comprises transferring the tissue web is transferred from ~~the~~ said at least one dewatering wire ~~with at least two different permeabilities~~ belt to the other of the two circulating belts said another belt following the separation point.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Original) The process according to claim 16, wherein the former comprises a double wire former.

19. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 16, wherein the former comprises a crescent former, ~~wherein the outer belt is formed by a dewatering wire with zonally variable wire permeability and wherein the inner belt~~ said another belt is formed by a felt belt.

20. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 11, wherein ~~the~~ said at least one dewatering wire belt comprises a woven material formed of warp and weft threads.

21. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 11, wherein the at least two zones of different wire permeabilities ~~of the at least one dewatering wire~~ are formed by weaving threads comprising at least one of different diameter and different weaving pattern.

22. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 11, wherein ~~the~~ said at least one dewatering belt comprises a wire and is used in a region in which a dry content of the tissue web is less than approximately 20%.

23. (Original) The process according to claim 22, wherein the dry content of the tissue web is less than approximately 12%.

24. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim ~~23~~ 11, wherein ~~the~~ said at least one dewatering ~~wire~~ belt is used in an initial sheet forming region at a dry content less than approximately 6%.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ machine according to claim 1, wherein said at least two zones having different wire permeabilities are structured to produce different dewatering speeds.

26. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein dewatering speeds in the at least two zones are different.

27. (New) A machine for producing a tissue web, comprising:  
a forming region comprising a forming roll;  
a dewatering belt and another belt passing over the forming roll;  
the dewatering belt and the another belt separating from each other immediately following the forming roll;  
the dewatering belt comprising at least two zones having different wire permeabilities formed by warp and weft threads;  
each at least two zones having at least one dimension of length and width less than 5 mm; and  
at least one suction zone arranged before the dewatering belt and the another belt separate from each other,  
wherein the tissue web is subjected to suction while being guided over the forming roll and before the another belt and the dewatering belt separate from each other.

28. (New) The machine according to claim 27, wherein the tissue web is guided on the another belt following a separation point which immediately follows the forming roll.



29. (New) The machine according to claim 27, wherein the tissue web is dewatered at a machine speed that is greater than approximately 1300 m/min.

30. (New) The machine according to claim 27, wherein the forming roll is arranged on a former which comprises one of a double wire former and a crescent former.

31. (New) A process for producing a tissue web in the machine of claim 27, the process comprising:

forming the tissue web in the forming region;

suctioning the tissue web with the at least one suction zone while the tissue web is guided by the forming roll between the dewatering belt and the another belt; and

separating from each other the another belt and the dewatering belt immediately following the forming roll.

32. (New) The machine according to claim 27, wherein the dewatering belt comprises a dewatering wire.